

REMARKS

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed February 24, 2004, Applicants elect Group II, Claims 5-14, 30, and 33, drawn to the isolated nucleic acid, a vector, a cell, a pharmaceutical composition, and a kit, classified in class 514, subclass 44, without traverse. Further, applicants elect the sequence, SEQ ID NO: 23, encoding the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 24.

Claims 1-4, 11, 15-29, 31, 32, 34-77 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer as drawn to non-elected subject matter. Applicants reserve the right to pursue these claims in a later application. Elected claims 5, 8-10, and 12 are amended herein. Claim 11 is canceled. Claim 78-84 have been added. Support for new and pending claims can be found in originally filed claims 1-77 and throughout the specification (for example, page 67, Table 8C). Upon entry of this amendment, claims 5-10, 12-14, 30, 33, 78-84 will be pending. No new matter has been added.

CORRECTION OF INVENTORSHIP UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.48(b).

Applicants have separately filed a Petition and Amendment to Correct Inventorship Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.48(b), copy attached hereto, which requests the deletion of the following persons who are not inventors of the invention being claimed in the instant application: Ballinger, Robert A., Blalock, Angela D., Boldog, Ferenc L., Casman, Stacie J., Fernandes, Elma, Guo, Xiaojia Sasha, Gusev, Vladimir Y., Herrmann, John, Heyes, Melvyn P., Ioime, Noelle, Ji, Weizhen, Kekuda, Ramesh, Leite, Mario W., Liu, Yi, Mezes, Peter D., Patturajan, Meera, Pena, Carol E.A., Rastelli, Luca, Shenoy, Suresh G., Shimkets, Richard A., Spytek, Kimberly A., Taupier, Raymond J., Tchernev, Velizar T., and Vernet, Corine. Following the instant amendment, Li, Li, Ellerman, Karen E., and Malyankar, Uriel M. are the inventors of the invention being claimed in the instant application. The inventions of the remaining inventors are no longer being claimed in the instant application. Along with the petition, Applicants have also submitted the processing fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(h).

OATH/DECLARATION

The Examiner indicates that the oath or declaration is defective since there is no signature and date for inventor Yi Liu. Applicants note, with the correction of inventorship, Yi Liu is not

Applicants: Guo, et al
U.S.S.N.: 10/074,978

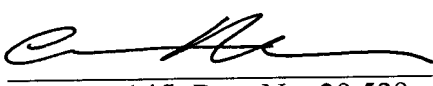
an inventor of the invention claimed in the instant application. Consequently, the declaration submitted on October 11, 2002 complies with 37 CFR 1.63.

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CONCLUSION

On the basis of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that this paper is fully responsive and that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested. If there are any questions regarding these amendments and remarks, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

Sr:  *Reg No: 39,529*
Ivor R. Elrifi, Reg. No. 39,529
Attorney for Applicants
MINTZ, LEVIN, COHN, FERRIS,
GLOVSKY and POPEO, P.C.
Tel: (617) 542-6000
Fax: (617) 542-2241
Customer No. 30623

Dated: April 26, 2004

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